



Corner Club Activity Group

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	258311
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Inspector	Patricia King
Setting Address	Border House, Border Drive, Mowmacre Hill, Leicester, Leicestershire, LE4 2JD
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Registered person	Leicester City Council
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Full day care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Corner Club Activity Group has been registered since 2004 and is run by Leicester City Council. It operates from an enclosed building within the environs of Border House which is situated in the Mowmacre district in Leicester city. There is a fully enclosed area for outside play. A maximum of 24 children may attend at any one time. The setting offers a breakfast club, for children under 8 who must attend with their parents. A crèche, usually for under 5s, runs at various times in the week to support parents attending courses and appointments. The out of school group provides a variety of activities for children over 5 years, both after school and in the school holidays. The setting is registered to provide full day care which is not

currently offered.

There are currently 37 children from 6 months to 8 years on roll. Places are limited to the residents of the Border House organisation. The setting supports children with special needs and who speak English as an additional language.

There are four staff working with the children and all of these have relevant childcare qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are well nourished with a healthy choice of breakfast options and a variety of light snacks, such as fresh fruit, during the daytime sessions. Children are learning about healthy eating because they discuss the food value of ingredients for cooking activities and used in dishes, such as fruit salad, cakes and pizzas. Children are encouraged to keep themselves healthy by having good individual standards of personal hygiene. For example, independent use of toilet and washing facilities is promoted and staff accompany some children to ensure appropriate hygiene practice is followed. Good hygiene standards are demonstrated by the staff, such as wiping down tables before and after food and talking about what they are doing and why.

Children are developing independence and show understanding of self care routines. They describe why hand washing before eating, after using the toilet, handling animals or outdoor play equipment is necessary to prevent spread of germs and cross-infection. Older children routinely put their hands in front of their faces when coughing and sneezing, and eagerly describe how this prevents the spread of germs and sickness to others. Staff have clear understanding of the records and procedures in place to support the health and welfare of the children with regards to medication and individual needs.

Children attending sessional care may rest and sleep according to their needs as the daily routines and accommodation is organised to provide for the age and care of individual children. Quiet and restful times are planned within the daily activities. Children enjoy a well balanced range of physical play opportunities planned to challenge and encourage their development, for example, climbing, balancing, ride-on-toys and outdoor games.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a secure and safe indoor and outdoor environment. Clear procedures to identify and minimise risks and hazards are established within the setting's documentation and staff describe how they implement these effectively. For example, routine risk assessments are recorded and used to minimise hazards

indoors, outside and on outings. However, the setting has not developed an effective lost child policy. Children are kept secure in the premises by robust security systems including a coded lock and fully enclosed outside play area. There are good systems to supervise the arrival, collection and departure of children and to ensure that children are collected by their parents or authorised adults. However, the daily records do not record times of attendance of adults, such as staff and visitors. This means that children are not effectively protected against visitors who have not been vetted by Ofsted.

Children are learning about keeping themselves safe because staff demonstrate good role models, talk about hazards and risks and praise safe behaviour. For example, by having regard for others, handling equipment and toys well and taking turns sensibly. They are learning about keeping safe and safety issues in the community and the wider world, for example, through activities and visits from the Fire Safety Officer, Ambulance Service, Accident Prevention Unit, Road Safety Officer, and a good range of resources, books and videos to support these initiatives.

Children's welfare and safety is promoted by the staff's understanding and knowledge of the signs and symptoms of child abuse. However, the reporting procedures are not fully in line with local Area Child Protection Committee Procedures including allegations against a member of staff, which means that appropriate action may not be taken to report concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children's individual needs are well met because staff maintain records of what children can do and plan how they can be supported and encouraged to make progress and participate fully in all the activities and experiences offered by the setting. The substantial range of quality toys, activities and resources is used creatively and effectively to provide positive opportunities for children to develop and learn in each of the sessional groups.

Children show interest and become actively involved in the stimulating activities prepared for their participation. For instance, they thoroughly enjoy working individually and in groups to make bird feeders filled with seeds. They chop fruit and talk about where they would put the feeders to watch the birds and which birds would be attracted by the food. They enthusiastically use art and craft materials to make collages and proudly display their work around the room. They eagerly describe what they have learned about people from different cultures and how they celebrate significant festivals. For example, they have made a large dragon mobile which was used in their dancing and they readily use an eclectic range of toys, utensils, puppets, books and costumes in their play.

Children under three benefit significantly from the informed and creative use of the 'Birth to three matters' framework to offer interesting and stimulating learning opportunities appropriate for their care and development.

Careful attention is paid to settling the children into the daily routines. This enables

the children to make choices, acquire new skills and knowledge which develops their confidence and self-esteem and helps them make positive relationships with each other.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are learning about the community in which they live and the wider world through an extremely well planned and organised range of activities and resources. They experience and celebrate diversity by recognising significant events and festivals in other cultures and act these out in their play. They receive visitors from local community services, such as the police and health professionals and are learning about how these people help them in their daily life.

Children's individual needs are effectively identified and the well-implemented settling in procedures mean that most children are fully enabled and prepared to take an active and inclusive role in the group. However, the setting does not have a person identified to be the Special Educational Needs Coordinator, which means that the needs of some children may not be fully met. Children's welfare and development is well promoted by the staff who work in close partnership with parents and others to monitor, evaluate and plan for their progress. Parents receive good information about the group, staff keep them up to date with regular information about what their children are doing and welcome parent's involvement. However, the provider has not made a record of relevant information about any complaints made about the setting available to parents.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are kept safe and their welfare is promoted at the setting because staff have knowledge and experience of childcare and play and have enthusiasm for their work with children. Arrangements successfully promote children's health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution. Robust recruitment and vetting procedures ensure that children are cared for by adults who are suitable and approved for their posts. Records and policies to support the safe and efficient management of the setting are in place and most are easily accessible to the parents.

Space and resources are organised imaginatively and stimulating activities provide children with interesting and exciting experiences to broaden their overall development. The environment, daily routines and activities are organised effectively, which means that overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider was asked to improve the systems to demonstrate

that staff have been vetted. Children's welfare and safety is more positively promoted because the staff working at the setting have been vetted by the regulator, or by the settings robust procedures, to ensure that all staff and others likely to have unsupervised access to the children, are suitable to do so.

Complaints since the last inspection

Ofsted received a report which raised concerns about Standard 2: Organisation of staff, Standard 12: Working in partnership with parents and carers and Standard 13: Child protection. At the time of this inspection visit the investigation was completed, refer to the provider's record of complaints.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- take positive steps to promote safety within the setting by ensuring that the child protection procedures are in accord with the local Area Child Protection Committee procedures and includes procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer
- work in partnership with parents and carers by ensuring that there is a system in place for parents to express their concerns, a record of all complaints is maintained and appropriate information from that record is shared with parents on request
- take positive steps to promote safety within the setting by having a lost child policy
- take steps to ensure that appropriate action can be taken to promote the welfare and development of children with special needs by having regard for the Code of practice (2001) with regard to having a Special Educational Needs Coordinator
- ensure the system for registering staff attendance on a daily basis shows the hours of attendance.

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